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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
--EXPEDITED PROCEDURE--
EXAMINING GROUP 1600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Monforte *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/139,386

Filed: August 25, 1998

For: PRIMERS USEFUL FOR SIZING
NUCLEIC ACIDS

Art Unit: 1637

Conf. No.: 5243

Examiner: Tung, J.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Advisory Action, mailed April 1, 2003, and the Final Office Action, mailed December 4, 2002, entry of the following amendment and consideration of the following remarks are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that entry of the Amendment and consideration of the Remarks places the application into condition for allowance, or, alternatively, reduces the number of issues for appeal. The amendment of the claims should obviate the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 103(a).

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace Claims 1, 2, and 5-8 with amended Claims 1, 2, and 5-8 as follows:

1. (Amended) A nucleic acid primer having a 5' end and a 3' end, comprising:

Do not enter
5/19/2003 J.W.
App. by
RCS
6/30/03

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